or probed ISI role in Andhra riots recently in Hydrabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps taken to identify the causes of the riots?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) As a sequal to the surfacing of a pamphelet derogatory to Islam, communal riots broke out in the old city of Hyderabad on 5th and 6th June, 1998. The city police is probing into various aspects of the origin of this mischievous pamphlet. Several fundamentalist organisations have been throughly questioned about the circulation of the pamphlet. The role of ISI is also being investigated.

Crimes in Uttar Pradesh

2324. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news- item published in Ganashakti, dated 13th June, 1998 regarding a circular issued by SSP, Lucknow;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to allay the apprehension of tourists to this historic place;

(c) whether there have been 2905 murders and 531 cases of rape in Uttar Pradesh from January, 1998 to 15th May, 1998, as reported;

(d) if not, the actual figures as per the State Government;

(e) whether any team from the Home Ministry is visiting Uttar Pradesh to asses law and order situation; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (d) Information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f) Analysis and assessment of law and order and security scenario in the country is an ongoing process in the Central Government, keeping in view its constitutional obligations. In the process of discharging these obligations, the Central Government also interacts with State Governments. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to depute any team to Uttar Pradesh.

Armed Forces Act, 1958

2325. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has started a detailed examination of the controversial Armed Forces Act, 1958;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commission has received several complaints against certain provision of this Act;

(d) if so, the time by which the Commission is likely to give its report containing the recommendations; and

(e) the State-wise complaints received by the Commission so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) In the context of complaints received by the National Human Rights Commission on the operation of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, and a case pending in the Supreme Court on the subject, the Commission impleaded itself as a party in the Supreme Court and has placed its views on the various provisions of the Act before the Court.

(c) The Commission had received allegations of atrocities and high handedness of Armed Forces, Para-Military Forces expecially in the North-Eastern States and J&K. In some of these complaints, requests for the repeal of the said Act have been made.